

There was no objection.

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# COMMUNICATION FROM THE DEMOCRATIC LEADER

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Honorable NANCY PELOSI, Democratic Leader:

CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES,  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,  
Washington, DC, December 9, 2013.

Hon. JOHN BOEHNER,  
Speaker of the House,  
Washington, DC.

DEAR SPEAKER BOEHNER: Pursuant to section 1238(b)(3) of the Floyd D. Spence National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2001 (22 U.S.C. 7002), amended by the Division P of the Consolidated Appropriations Resolution, 2003 (22 U.S.C. 6901), I am pleased to reappoint the following individuals to the United States-China Economic and Security Review Commission.

Ms. Carolyn Bartholomew, Washington, DC.

Mr. Jeffrey L. Fiedler, Great Falls, VA.  
Thank you for your attention to these appointments.

Sincerely,

NANCY PELOSI,  
Democratic Leader.

# AGREEMENT ON SOCIAL SECURITY BETWEEN THE SWISS CONFEDERATION AND THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA—MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES (H. DOC. NO. 113-75)

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following message from the President of the United States; which was read and, together with the accompanying papers, referred to the Committee on Ways and Means and ordered to be printed:

*To the Congress of the United States:*

Pursuant to section 233(e)(1) of the Social Security Act, as amended by the Social Security Amendments of 1977 (Public Law 95-216, 42 U.S.C. 433(e)(1)), I transmit herewith an Agreement on Social Security between the United States of America and the Swiss Confederation, signed at Bern on December 3, 2012, (the "U.S.-Swiss Agreement"). The Agreement consists of two instruments: a principal agreement and an administrative arrangement, and upon entry into force, will replace: the Agreement between the United States of America and the Swiss Confederation on Social Security with final protocol, signed July 18, 1979; the Administrative Agreement between the United States of America and the Swiss Confederation for the Implementation of the Agreement on Social Security of July 18, 1979, signed December 20, 1979; and the Supplementary Agreement between the two Contracting States, signed June 1, 1988.

The U.S.-Swiss Agreement is similar in objective to the social security agreements already in force with most of the European Union member states,

Australia, Canada, Chile, Japan, Norway, and the Republic of Korea. Such bilateral agreements provide for limited coordination between the United States and foreign social security systems to eliminate dual social security coverage and taxation and to help prevent the lost benefit protection that can occur when workers divide their careers between two countries. The principal updates encompassed in the Agreement include amendments to rules for entitlement to Swiss disability pensions paid to ensure equality of treatments between U.S. and Swiss nationals, updates to personal information confidentiality provisions, and modifications necessary to take into account changes in U.S. and Swiss laws since 1988.

The U.S.-Swiss Agreement contains all provisions mandated by section 233 of the Social Security Act and other provisions that I deem appropriate to carry out the purposes of section 233, pursuant to section 233(c)(4) of the Social Security Act.

I also transmit, for the information of the Congress, a report prepared by the Social Security Administration explaining the key points of the U.S.-Swiss Agreement, along with a paragraph-by-paragraph explanation of the provisions of the principal agreement and administrative arrangement. Annexed to this report is the report required by section 233(e)(1) of the Social Security Act on the number of individuals affected by the Agreement and the effect of the Agreement on the estimated income and expenditures of the U.S. Social Security program. The Department of State and the Social Security Administration have recommended the U.S.-Swiss Agreement and related documents to me.

I commend the U.S.-Swiss Agreement on Social Security and related documents.

BARACK OBAMA.  
THE WHITE HOUSE, December 9, 2013.

# HOOR OF MEETING ON TOMORROW

Mr. PITTENGER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet at noon tomorrow for morning-hour debate and 2 p.m. for legislative business.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

# ADJOURNMENT

Mr. PITTENGER. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 5 o'clock and 19 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, December 10, 2013, at noon for morning-hour debate.

# EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

4020. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy; Importation of Bovines and Bovine Products [Docket No.: APHIS-2008-0010] (RIN: 0579-AC68) received December 4, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4021. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Unallowable Fringe Benefit Costs (DFARS Case 2012-D038) (RIN: 0750-AH76) received December 4, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

4022. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement: Preparation of Letter of Offer and Acceptance (DFARS Case 2012-D048) (RIN: 0750-AH84) received December 4, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

4023. A letter from the Counsel, Legal Division, Bureau for Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the Bureau's final rule — Ability-to-Repay and Qualified Mortgage Standards Under the Truth in Lending Act (Regulation Z) [Docket No.: CFPB-2013-0002] (RIN: 3170-AA34) received December 2, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

4024. A letter from the Counsel, Legal Division, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, transmitting the Bureau's final rule — Homeownership Counseling Organizations Lists Interpretive Rule (RIN: 3170-AA37) received December 2, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

4025. A letter from the Acting Director, Directorate of Standards and Guidance, Department of Labor, transmitting the Department's final rule — Record Requirements in the Mechanical Power Presses Standard [Docket No.: OSHA-2013-0010] (RIN: 1218-AC80) received December 4, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Education and the Workforce.

4026. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting Third Annual Report to Congress on FDA Foreign Offices Provisions of the FDA Food Safety and Modernization Act, pursuant to 21 U.S.C. 393 Public Law 111-353, section 201(b); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4027. A letter from the Director, Regulation Policy and Management Staff, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's final rule — Turtles Intrastate and Interstate Requirements; Confirmation of Effective Date [Docket No.: FDA-2013-N-0639] received November 26, 2013, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4028. A letter from the Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services, transmitting a Report to Congress: The Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services' Evaluation of Community-based Wellness and Prevention Programs under Section 4202(b) of the Affordable Care Act; to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.